

Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

SCS-03 SCA-01 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 USSS-00

PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /072 W

----- 017238

O R 091400Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3952

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSAHA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTOWA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

JCS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 1097

E.9. 11652: AEMR ASEC MILI PINS PINT AO

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATION THAT AMCITS LEAVE ANGOLA

1. ON AUGUST 8 I RECOMMENDED TO AMERICAN, BRITISH AND CANADIAN CITIZENS THAT THEY LEAVE ANGOLA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE RECOMMENDATION WAS NOT BASED ON THE KNOWLEDGE THAT A SPECIFIC EVENT WAS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE, BUT WAS MADE RATHER IN RECOGNITION OF THE FACT THAT THE INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION IN ANGOLA HAS DETERIORATED TO THE POINT THAT ALL THOSE WHO CAN GO SHOULD LEAVE. THE SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM PROSPECTS ARE FOR CONTINUED FIGHTING AND INSTABILITY AND LACK OF ANY SECURITY FOR FOREIGNERS IN THEIR PERSONS OR PROPERTY.

2. RATHER THEN WAIT LONGER AND RELY ON EVACUATION AIRCRAFT, WE THOUGHT IT BEST TO MAKE THE RECOMMENDATION NOW, WHILE THERE
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STILL EXISTS THE POSSIBILITY OF GETTING OUT BY COMMERCIAL AIR.

SPACE IS TIGHT, BUT PEOPLE DO MANAGE TO BOOK SEATS TO KINSHASA AND JOHANNESBURG WITHIN ONE TO THREE WEEKS. MANY PEOPLE WILL NOT GO, BUT A RECOMMENDATION AT THIS TIME ALLOWS THOSE WHO ARE UNDECIDED TO MAKE RATIONAL DECISIONS AND TIME TO PREPARE, WHICH IS NOT THE CASE WHEN AN EVACUATION IS ORDERED. AN EVACUATION MAY STILL BE NECESSARY, BUT I HOPE TO AVOID THIS EXTREME IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

3. I TALKED ON AUGUST 7 WITH ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER GENERAL MACEDO ABOUT MY DECISION. HE LIMITED HIMSELF TO SAYING IT WOULD BE WISE AT THIS TIME TO TAKE ALL POSSIBLE PRECAUTIONS. HE HIMSELF SEES NO QUICK END TO THE NIGHTMARE. THE SITUATION IS SO BAD THAT BY AUGUST 8 MACEDO FELT OBLIGED TO ANNOUNCE THE PORTUGUESE MILITARY MIGHT HAVE TO STEP IN IF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS DO NOT ACT RESPONSIBLY. ABOUT THE ONLY THING THEY WILL BE ABLE TO DO IS TO SET UP THE PERIMETER DEFENSES PROVIDED FOR IN THEIR CONTINGENCY PLANS AROUND LUANDA, LOBITO AND MOCAMEDES, FORCE THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OUT AND ASSUME CONTROL OF GOVERNMENT AND INTERNAL SECURITY FUNCTIONS. ALTHOUGH THEIR PLANS DO NOT CALL FOR IT, THEY MAY ALSO BE OBLIGED TO CLEAN OUT NOVA LISBOA AND ESTABLISH IT AS A SAFE HAVEN.

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